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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,397	01/17/2002	Scott B. Marovich	10003530-1	9611

7590 10/31/2007
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

ISMAIL, SHAWKI SAIF

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/051,397	MAROVICH SCOTT	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shawki S. Ismail	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

1. This communication is in response to the remarks received on August 20, 2007.

Claims 1-25 are pending.

The Previous Rejection Maintained

2. The 102 rejection is respectfully maintained as set forth in the last Office Action mailed on October 4, 2006. Applicants' arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive and the previous rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

4. Claims 1-12, 14-18, and 20-25, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Dietz et al.**, (Dietz) U.S. Patent No. **6,954,789**.

5. As to claim 1, Dietz teaches a network interface for processing incoming messages sent by a client device to a server, comprising:

a First-In-First-Out (refer to Fig. 3) adapted to receive the incoming messages and to assemble the incoming messages from a serial to a parallel form (Dietz teaches

parsing (serial to parallel conversion) a packet to create a parser record comprising a function of selected portions of the packet.

a regular-expression pattern matching circuit connected to the FIFO buffer, the regular-expression pattern matching circuit adapted to, concurrent with the assembly of the incoming messages from a serial to a parallel form, recognize Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) message headers embedded in the incoming messages, parse recognized HTTP message headers into parsed HTTP message headers, and provide the parsed HTTP message headers to the server (col. 5, lines 57-62, col. 6, lines 8-12, Dietz teaches a pattern matching engine)

6. As to claim 2, Dietz teaches the network interface as claimed in claim 1 further including: a logic circuit connected to the FIFO buffer, the logic circuit adapted to provide a response message to the client device based on a content of the recognized HTTP message headers (col. 32, lines 38-46 and col. 34, lines 28-33).

7. As to claim 3, Dietz teaches the network interface as claimed in claim 1 wherein: the regular-expression pattern matching circuit is further adapted to provide to the server the parsed HTTP message headers in a compact form (col. 18, lines 25-33).

8. As to claim 4, Dietz teaches the network interface as claimed in claim 1 wherein: the regular-expression pattern matching circuit is further adapted to provide to the server incoming messages that cannot be recognized by the regular-expression pattern matching circuit (col. 14, lines 44-53).

9. As to claim 5, Dietz teaches the network interface as claimed in claim 1 wherein: the regular-expression pattern matching circuit is implemented by a technique consisting of hardware, software, and a combination thereof (col. 11, lines 50-59).
10. As to claim 6, Dietz teaches the network interface as claimed in claim 1 wherein: the HTTP message headers include HTTP cookies (col. 14, lines 53-67).
11. Claims 7-25 do not teach or define any new limitation above claims 1-6; therefore, they are rejected for similar reasons.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are not deemed to be persuasive.

The examiner maintains his position and further explains that the claims must be given their broadest reasonable interpretation. The examiner attempted to explain to the applicant in the previous office action (refer to the action mailed out on May 18, 07 pages 4-5) that the term concurrent does not necessarily mean at exactly the "same moment in time." The term concurrent as pointed out by the applicant means, "occurring or existing simultaneously" but does not necessarily mean at exactly the "same moment in time." Because the term concurrent has been broadly interpreted, the examiner has used the example of a long message passing through the serial to parallel conversion. While the end of the message is still going through the conversion the head of the message will undergo the pattern matching and in this case both operations are happening concurrently. It is believed that this example would be appreciated and understood by one of ordinary skill in the art (and not necessarily based on the

examiner's personal knowledge) to read on the claimed "concurrent." Therefore, it would be reasonable to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to broadly interpret the claimed "concurrent" to mean occurring together but does not necessarily mean at exactly the "same moment in time."

The examiner would also like to add that in the case of claims 13 and 19, the examiner does not have to make such interpretation because of the fact that the claims recite messages rather than message. This means that while one message is undergoing serial-to-parallel conversion the other message could undergo the pattern matching and in this case both operations on each message are happening concurrently.

The Examiner further maintains that Dietz assembly of the incoming message from serial to parallel form is occurring concurrently with the pattern matching of the message and thus meets the scope of the claimed limitation.

Conclusion

13. The Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. "Look-up engine for packet-based network" U.S. Patent No. 5,917,821.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

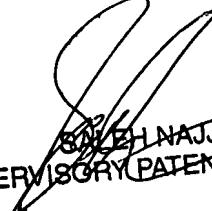
mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached at 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shawki Ismail
Patent Examiner
October 26, 2007



SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER